

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for triggering a provisioning event in a service provider using a provisioning request message stored in a computer-readable medium generated by an external system, comprising:

a provisioning system operable to electronically receive the provisioning request message from the external system and transmit information in the provisioning request message to the service provider to trigger the provisioning event, wherein the provisioning system is separate from the external system and the service provider, and wherein provisioning events include activation of a service, deactivation of a service, suspension of a service, resumption of a service, modification of a service profile or service parameters, and gathering of status information associated with a service;

the provisioning request message being ~~[[an]]~~ a format-independent electronic message ~~formatted to be capable of being constructed by and~~ interpreted by any external system, ~~the provisioning request message~~ ~~[[and]]~~ having a data structure that includes a provisioning reply, wherein the provisioning system uses the provisioning reply to return status information error information relating to the provisioning request message to the external system, and wherein the data structure further includes information identifying an entity to which the provisioning event pertains, wherein the identifying information includes one or more attributes defined by the external system;

the provisioning system in communication with the external system and the service provider, wherein the service provider is operable to communicate with the entity to cause the

provisioning event to occur in response to receiving the provisioning request message from the provisioning system; and

the service provider operable to provide mobile communication service to the entity.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the one or more attributes include a name attribute that identifies the entity.

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the one or more attributes include a type attribute that identifies an entity type of the entity.

4. (Original) The system of claim 3, wherein the type attribute identifies a model number of the entity.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the service provider is a mobile data service provider.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the provisioning request message further includes provisioning data that identifies a particular entity to which the provisioning event pertains.

7. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the particular entity is a mobile communication device.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the provisioning data includes one or more attributes defined by the external system.
9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the one or more attributes include a name attribute that identifies a type of information included within the provisioning data.
10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9, wherein the type of information included within the provisioning data includes a personal identification number (PIN) for the entity.
11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9, wherein the type of information included within the provisioning data includes a product identifier for the entity.
12. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9, wherein the type of information included within the provisioning data includes a billing identifier for the entity.
13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9, wherein the type of information included within the provisioning data includes an international mobile subscriber identity identifier (IMSI) for the entity.
14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9, wherein the type of information included within the provisioning data includes a mobile subscriber integrated services digital network number (MSISDN) for the entity.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9, wherein the type of information included within the provisioning data includes an integrated circuit card identifier (ICCID) for the entity.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the provisioning request message includes additional information identifying one or more additional entities to which the provisioning event pertains, and wherein the additional information includes one or more attributes defined by the external system.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein a data structure relationship between the provisioning entity section and the one or more additional provisioning entity sections is defined by the external system.

Claims 18-53. (Cancelled)

54. (Currently Amended) A system for triggering a provisioning event in a mobile communication device using a provisioning request message, comprising:

a service provider in communication with the mobile device, the service provider providing mobile communication services to the mobile device;

a system external to the service provider, the system operable to generate a provisioning request message required to trigger a provisioning event;

a provisioning system in communication with the service provider and the system, the provisioning system operable to electronically receive the provisioning request message from the external system and to transmit information in the provisioning request message to the service

provider over a computer network to trigger the provisioning event in the mobile device, wherein provisioning system is separate from the external system and the service provider, and wherein provisioning events include activation of a service, deactivation of a service, suspension of a service, resumption of a service, modification of a service profile or service parameters, and gathering of status information associated with a service; and

the provisioning request message being ~~[[an]]~~ a format-independent electronic message ~~formatted to be~~ capable of being instructed and interpreted by any external system, ~~the provisioning request message~~ [[and]] having a data structure that includes a provisioning reply, wherein the provisioning system uses the provisioning reply to return status information or error information relating to the provisioning request message to the external system, and wherein the data structure further includes information identifying the mobile device to which the provisioning event pertains, the identifying information including one or more attributes defined by the external system.

55. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the electronic message is an extensible markup language (XML) message.

56. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 54, wherein the electronic message is an extensible markup language (XML) message.

57. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the status information describes the status of the provisioning system entity after the provisioning request message has been processed.

58. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the error information describes an error that occurred while the provisioning system performed an action in the provisioning request message.

59. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 54, wherein the status information describes the status of the provisioning system entity after the provisioning request message has been processed.

60. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 54, wherein the error information describes an error that occurred while the provisioning system performed an action in the provisioning request message.

61. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a processor;

a computer-readable storage medium containing instructions operable to cause the processor to perform operations including:

receiving at a provisioning system, a provisioning request message generated by an external system, wherein the provisioning request message is ~~[[an]]~~ a format-independent electronic message capable of being constructed and formatted to be interpreted by any external system, ~~[[and]]~~ wherein the provisioning request message is capable of specifying a request to provision entities on multiple systems using multiple schemes for identifying an entity, and

wherein the provisioning request message identifies an entity and includes a provisioning reply and one or more performable actions;

transmitting the received provisioning request message from the provisioning system to a service provider operable to process the provisioning request message and to provide mobile communication service to the entity ~~in response to receiving the provisioning request message~~, wherein providing mobile communication service includes activation of a service, deactivation of a service, suspension of a service, resumption of a service, modification of a service profile or service parameters, and gathering of status information associated with a service; and

transmitting the received provisioning reply from the provisioning system to the external system, the provisioning reply including status information or error information relating to the provisioning request message, wherein the status information describes the status of the entity after the provisioning request message has been processed, and wherein the error information describes an error that occurred while performing an action in the provisioning request message.

62. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 57, wherein the status information describing the status of the provisioning system entity includes: service deactivated, service deactivated after modification, service suspended, service activated, service activated via handheld, and service activated via request.

63. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein the error information describing the error that occurred includes: success, service already active, service not suspended, service deactivated, service suspended, no line items found, insufficient permission to request activation, insufficient permission to request activation/modification, insufficient permission to request

suspend, insufficient permission to request resume, invalid data: missing billing identifier, invalid data: insufficient input, invalid request: service inactive/ service not found in database, invalid data: missing IMSI, invalid data: missing input information, length must satisfy range, must belong to set, must satisfy both length range and content format, internal error: please contact product support, invalid data: requestor resolved to other, invalid data: requestor not found, and system error: please try again later.

64. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 59, wherein the status information describing the status of the provisioning system entity includes: service deactivated, service deactivated after modification, service suspended, service activated, service activated via handheld, and service activated via request.

65. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 60, wherein the error information describing the error that occurred includes: success, service already active, service not suspended, service deactivated, service suspended, no line items found, insufficient permission to request activation, insufficient permission to request activation/modification, insufficient permission to request suspend, insufficient permission to request resume, invalid data: missing billing identifier, invalid data: insufficient input, invalid request: service inactive/ service not found in database, invalid data: missing IMSI, invalid data: missing input information, length must satisfy range, must belong to set, must satisfy both length range and content format, internal error: please contact product support, invalid data: requestor resolved to other, invalid data: requestor not found, and system error: please try again later.



66. (New) A system, comprising:

a processor;

a computer-readable storage medium containing instructions operable to cause the processor to perform operations including:

receiving at a provisioning system, a provisioning request message generated by an external system, wherein the provisioning request message is a format-independent electronic message capable of being constructed and interpreted by any external system, wherein the provisioning request message is capable of specifying a request to provision entities on multiple systems using multiple schemes for identifying an entity, and wherein the provisioning request message identifies a particular entity and includes a provisioning reply and one or more performable actions;

wherein, after receiving the provisioning request message, the provisioning system uses the provisioning request message to verify the identity of the external system, and the provisioning system sends an acknowledgement to the external system indicating successful receipt of the provisioning request message;

wherein, after verifying the identity of the external system, the provisioning system transmits the received provisioning request message to a service provider operable to process the provisioning request message and to provide mobile communication service to the entity;

wherein, after the provisioning system transmits the received provisioning request message to the service provider, the service provider processes the provisioning request message;

wherein, after the provisioning request message has been processed by the service provider, the provisioning system transmits the provisioning reply, including status information or error information, to the external system; and

wherein, after the external system has received the provisioning reply, the external system verifies the identity of the provisioning system;

wherein, after verifying the identity of the provisioning system, the external system takes action based upon the contents of the provisioning reply.